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Yugoslavia

11 August 1949

Alleged Meeting of Anti-Soviet  
Communists at Zagreb

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## \* Documentary

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1. In the 9 August edition of the Rome independent daily Il Lavoro appeared an article by Enrico Altevilla which telephoned from Stockholm on 1 August 1949.

2. Forming an important part of this article, and attributed to the Scandinavian News Agency, was a report that Tito had held a secret meeting at Zagreb on 22 July 1949 with the participation of anti-Soviet Communists from certain Russian satellite States. Among the dissidents are reported to have been communists from Romania, Bulgaria, Albania, Hungary and Czechoslovakia; they allegedly included a Colonel Stalac, described as chief of the Bulgarian communists, as well as representatives of Polish partisans belonging to the KPZ and OPR organisations and of the Russian partisan group "Avrau Janyu".

3. For your information we quote below pertinent extracts from the article in question:

"The purpose of this meeting was specifically to study the possibility of forming an anti-Stalin bloc, especially since (according to other rumors which are in circulation but in which we personally do not place much confidence), on the occasion of the next congress of the Russian Communist Party, Stalin intends to invite the satellite States to become part of the USSR.

"In the Zagreb meeting are also reported to have participated, in secret, representatives of satellite communist States, who are alleged to have expressed their dissatisfaction with the Soviet Union, asserting that the Russian dictatorship is becoming constantly more oppressive and that their national economies are in a state of bankruptcy for lack of relations with the West and because of compulsory deliveries of raw materials, manufactured goods and food products to the Soviet Union, which has called on all its satellites for assistance in order to complete its Five-Year plan in four years.

"The only results of the Zagreb conference are shown by the crossing into Yugoslavia of many thousands of Greek Communist partisans who have requested Tito's protection, since they do not intend to continue the unequal struggle against the regular forces of the Athens

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Government but also did not wish to flee to Russia or one of the satellite States for fear of being called to account for the defects suffered in recent months."

3. After mentioning that the meeting also succeeded in coordinating all the secret radio stations operating in the satellite countries and in the Ukraine, the article reported that Tito had announced his intention to grant an amnesty to the anti-Tito partisans and to resume contact with the dissident groups composed of the followers of Macek and Milosevic. Tito is understood to have promised Galeazzo Belotti, Kovak, Popovic and Milikic, as representatives of the four principal opposition groups, safe conduct to come to Belgrade to enter into negotiations for reconciliation.

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